Docket No.: 0656-032US3A

IN THE UNITED STATED PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Salter et al. Examiner: Gitomer, Ralph

U.S. Serial No. 10/578,935 Art Unit: 1651

 $\label{thm:condition} \textbf{Title: INHIBITION ASSAY METHOD AND DEVICE FOR DETECTION OF } \\$

ANTIBIOTICS

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Request for Continued Examination

Preliminary Amendment

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office's Final Office Action, dated January 28, 2009, in Serial Number 10/578,935, filed May 9, 2006, the Applicant respectfully submits the enclosed Request for Continued Examination. The Request Fee and late response fee (5th month) is included herewith. If any additional fees for the accompanying response are required, Applicant requests that this be a Petition thereof. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required to Deposit Account 50-3152.

II. Preliminary Amendment

Prior to examination, kindly amend the above-captioned application as discussed below.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 12 of this paper.